

Mass in Motion: Stories from the Field

Extending Gloucester's Harborwalk

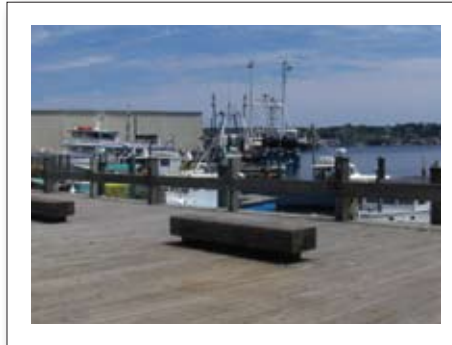
Every hour, up to 200 pedestrians use the waterfront promenade along Stacy Boulevard in Gloucester. The walk along the water near Downtown, however, is a path much less traveled due to the short length of the existing harborwalk and its lack of connection to Downtown and Stacy Boulevard. In addition, a vacant parcel, known locally as I-4, C-2, has sat on the waterfront as an eye-sore since the 1960's.

The City identified much needed improvements to the waterfront as vital to the future economic development of the City. The Community Development office, along with local residents, developed a new Harbor Economic Development Plan in 2010 that recommended a focus on three key economic sectors:

- » Commercial Fishing
- » Maritime Industries
- » Tourism

This Plan identified the need for pedestrian connections along the waterfront and between the Harbor and Downtown to connect these three sectors and improve the economic viability of Gloucester's working waterfront.

Get Fit Gloucester! (Gloucester's



Soon residents will be able to walk along the water in Downtown Gloucester.

Mass in Motion program) Project Manager Stephen Winslow worked with other Community Development staff to plan out the next segment of the Harborwalk. Winslow sought advice from the designer of the Newburyport's Boardwalk, a firm he worked with as part of the Shape-Up Somerville program. With the designer's help, the Community Development

staff plotted out practical segments of the Harborwalk extension and developed cost-estimates.

The Seaport Advisory Council granted the City of Gloucester \$500,000 to design and construct the Harbor Walk extension. The City recently hired Cambridge 7 Associates to design and build the extension by the end of 2011.

Contact: Community Development Director Sarah Garcia > 978-281-9781 > sgarcia@gloucester-ma.gov

Mass in Motion is generously supported by: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation, the Boston Foundation, the Harvard Pilgrim Health Foundation, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the MetroWest Community Health Care Foundation, and the Tufts Health Plan Foundation.

